

Application No. 09/588,350
Amendment dated October 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 15, 2005

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) A method of processing consumption of an electronic ticket in an information processing system in which user terminal units, account units each having an account address assigned to [[a]] each user and storing electronic tickets owned by the assigned user, and ticket examiner units are interconnected by a communication network through which electronic tickets can be circulated, comprising the steps of:

(a) causing a user portable processor owned by a user who wants one of electronic tickets stored in the account unit assigned to said user to be consumed to transmit an account address which is derived from a demand consumption of said one electronic ticket together with the account address assigned to said user which is derived from the user portable processor to a ticket examiner unit;

(b) causing the ticket examiner unit to access [[an]] the account unit corresponding to the account address derived from the user portable processor by transmitting a certificate of inscription for said ticket examiner unit to demand [[an]] consumption of the electronic ticket;

(c) causing the account unit to verify the certificate of inscription for the ticket examiner unit;

(d) causing the account unit to derive the demanded electronic ticket and prepare a certificate of consumption and to transmit [[it]] the electronic ticket and the certificate of consumption to the ticket examiner unit[;]] upon successful verification of the certificate of ticket examiner inspection of said ticket examiner unit;

([[d]]e) causing the ticket examiner unit to request the user portable processor to generate an electronic signature to [[a]] the certificate of consumption; and

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(((e))) causing the portable processor to generate the signature to the certificate of consumption and to transmit [[it]] the certificate of consumption with signature to the ticket examiner unit for verification prior to completion of ticket examination.

29. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 28, in which the step (((c)))d further comprises the steps of: verifying the causing the account unit to verify a circulation condition required on a ticket examining side for the with which the ticket examiner unit is required to satisfy and which is described on the derived electronic ticket; and transmitting it to transmit the electronic ticket to the ticket examiner unit upon successful verification of the circulation condition.

30. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 28, in which step (((e)))d further comprises the steps of: verifying the causing the ticket examiner unit to verify a circulation condition required on a user side for with which the user is required to satisfy and which is described on the received electronic ticket, and using a result of such verification as a condition for deciding whether the electronic ticket should pass ticket examination or not.

Claims 31-33. (Canceled)